



Santa stampedes FGM
... Page 8

Elk Point

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Tuesday, December 21, 2004 vol. 24 no. 51
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Christmas is a time for reflection

Christmas has its ups and downs at the zoo visited by Elk Point Elementary School's concert performers last week. Here, the gloomy zookeeper doesn't even crack a smile when the Friendly Beasts give the newborn Baby Jesus their most treasured gifts. Full concert coverage on Pages 6 & 7.



All is bright as Elk Point lights up nights

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

The results are in from the Elk Point Chamber of Commerce Christmas Lighting and Decorating competition, and the judging team declared themselves impressed overall by the quality of displays, which made choosing the winners more difficult than ever.

Many homes and yards were decked with the new LED lights, which give a totally different effect than the standard variety, and many displays incorporated lighted, inflatable figures which are increasingly popular this year.

The spectacular display created by Residential winner Nemesio Tuliao and family on the corner of 55th Avenue and 49th Street was highlighted by multicolored lights streaming like a comet's tail up to a large golden star.

Second place in the category went to Rocky and Roxy Botting, whose entire yard on 54th Street and 49th Avenue has been transformed into a fantasy of lighted trees, animals and buildings. Third prize went to Harvey and Cheryl Derewynka, whose colorful display incorporated inflated figures and lighted candy canes for a festive overall effect.

Honorable mentions went to Walter and Marie Lesyk and their next door neighbors, Nigel and Kandus LaFrance, whose displays were stunning as always, to Mike and Lana MacDonald, Armand and Yvette Houle, and David Buksa, all with outstanding displays.

Manufactured and mobile homes have a category of their own this year, with first prize going to Jack and Leona Bretzer, whose display along Highway 41 and 54th Avenue provides a festive welcome to motorists, and second place to Brian and Linda Letwin's well-decorated property on 49th Street, just north of the Tuliao home.

(Continued on Page 3)



With a tail as big as a kite - the Christmas star shines bright over Nemesio Tuliao's light-decked landscape with peacefully feeding deer to win the Residential category of the Lighting and Decorating contest.



Town passes 2005 operating budget

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

Elk Point Town Council approved a revised and fine-tuned 2005 operating budget on Monday, December 13.

Town manager Myron Goyan noted that the Town's salary formula had been revised, with new percentages allotted to various departments. He also told Council that with the increasing cost of garbage collection and disposal, he would recommend a hike in garbage collection fees.

Goyan gave Council a rundown on current capital

reserves which are geared toward a five-year projection of potential projects. Transportation reserves now sit at \$175,000, with another \$80,000 to be added this year and 56A avenue slated as top priority.

Dick Millar of REACH visited Council to discuss the terms of reference and constitution of the community foundation which will be a non-profit organization able to issue receipts to donors.

"This will be totally different from the operating grant," Mayor Parrish Tung

said. "It's a long term project which will eventually take over from the Operating Grant Program when it starts generating enough money." The Town "will not put money into this, but will facilitate" the foundation by offering such services as photocopying and administrative duties.

The Operating Grant Program is currently in place to assist organizations experiencing unexpected financial difficulties.

Goyan said the community foundation is "a tool for economic growth" and an

asset to the community. Goyan had proposed that the foundation could build a house and raffle it to get the foundation off the ground financially, but councillor Alvina Schuhmacher brought them back to earth with a thump when she asked, "Do you realistically think you could get enough volunteer labor to build a house?"

Millar said the foundation will approach businesses for donations once they have a charitable number.

"It would be good to start the foundation, then see

where it will go," Mayor Tung said.

With no other provincial tournaments taking place in 2004, Elk Point Minor Ball will receive the remaining \$1,000 from the hosting grant fund.

A \$350 grant was

approved for the Chamber of Commerce to help fund the signage on the Extravaganza stage.

The Town will pick up \$100 per month of rent for the FCSS Department, and also approved that department's 2005 budget.

Break-in culprit sought

By Cst. Dalyn Orsten

Elk Point RCMP Detachment

Between Friday, December 17 and Monday, December 20, unknown person(s) broke into the Greco Industries building in Elk Point. The suspect(s) stole a blue fire retardant three-quarter length men's coat and tools.

Anyone found in possession of any of the stolen property will be charged under the Criminal Code regardless of their involvement in the original break-and-enter.

If anyone has information regarding this crime, or any other crime, they are urged to contact the RCMP at 780-724-3964 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person or persons responsible.

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Mon., Dec. 20 - Thurs., Dec. 23 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 25 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 27 - Thurs., Dec. 30 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 31 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Season's Greetings
FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU

In the spirit of Christmas, we've gathered together to wish our friends, neighbors, customers and associates a very merry season and a prosperous new year. We're deeply grateful for your loyal support and look forward to serving you again, soon.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING HOURS

December 20 - 23	9 am - 9 pm
December 24	9 am - 4 pm
December 25 - 26	Closed
December 27 - 30	9 am - 6:30 pm
December 31	9 am - 4 pm
January 1	Closed

Please join our staff for HOT APPLE CIDER on December 24th.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The bucks could start here

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

In the new year, local Chamber of Commerce member businesses may have a new way to recognize their employees for service or safety performance, or to give them for special bonuses.

President Rod Randall says the Chamber recently had a request for Elk Point Bucks, similar to those used for prizes in the Shop

Locally promotion, to give out to company employees. When told none were available, the company went ahead and made their own form of gift certificates to be used at local businesses, but the request set the Chamber to thinking, "Why not?"

"We discussed it at the Extravaganza windup, and

had given it some discussion in the past," Randall told members at the final regular meeting of 2004.

He volunteered to come up with a prototype, and suggested that the Bucks should come in various denominations, and could be numbered and marked with the Chamber's corpo-

rate seal to prevent their being copied.

The Bucks would be purchased by businesses from the Chamber, and could be spent by their recipients for purchases of at least the face value, with stores returning the Bucks to the Chamber for reimbursement. They would have no cash value.



ELK POINT INSURANCE

HOLIDAY HOURS

December 24
8:30 a.m. - 12 Noon
Closed December 25 to 28
Closed January 1, 2 & 3

All is bright

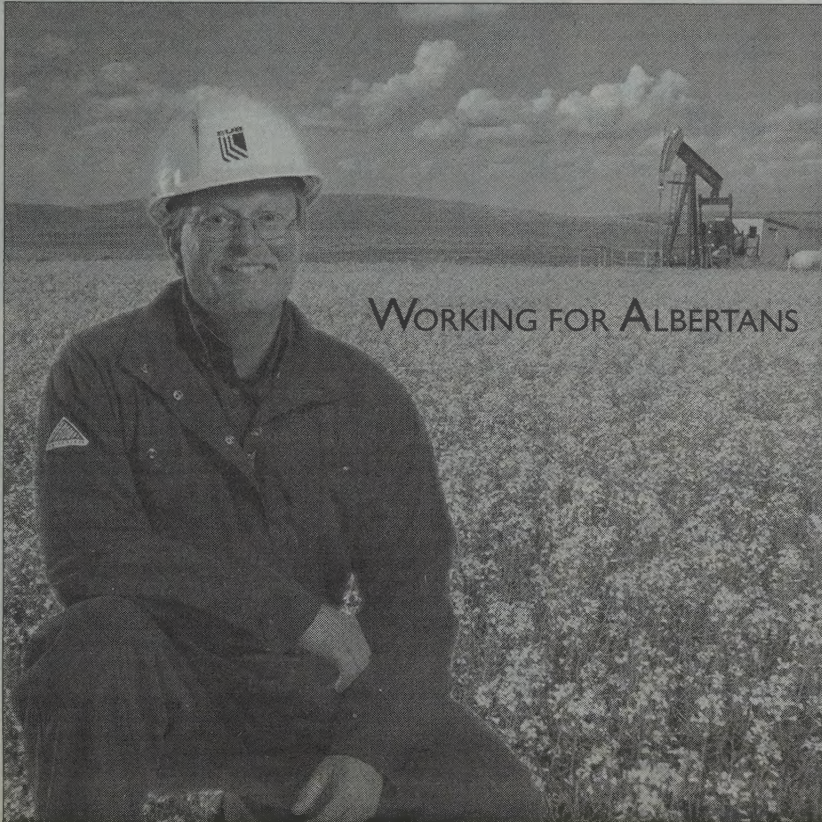
(Continued from Page 1)

Honorable mentions include several attractive light displays in the west mobile home subdivision.

Honorable mention also goes to the family in apartment block A, whose second floor balcony is exceptionally well dressed for the season.

Heritage Lodge is the hands-down winner of the Institutional category, with Fort George Manor and Buckingham House tied for second and third place, and honorable mention to the Elk Point United Church.

Thanks, everyone, for making sure Elk Point is a bright and beautiful community that Santa will have no chance of missing on his Friday night rounds!



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along with our
best wishes for a happy and
healthy holiday season.



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EDITORIAL

Joy is for sharing

This past week has been a virtually non-stop parade of entertainment and celebration, as schools and churches have celebrated the Christmas season with music, song and story.

From the message of giving delivered by the friendly beasts in the first Elementary School concert and the message of hope and faith brought by the Snow Queen and the aurora borealis in the second concert, to the more traditional Christmas pageants in the churches, the message is there.

Joy. Hope. Faith. Giving of ourselves.

That is what the Christmas season is all about.

See joy in the faces of children, and in the eyes of the parents and grandparents who delight in their excitement.

Feel the hope in the message of the First Christmas, that something wonderful can come of what surely must have felt like a disaster to a young mother giving birth in a stable surrounded by livestock.

Have faith that this world will survive its ongoing conflicts, and that we will survive Christmas.

Give of ourselves in hugs and expressions of love.

Have a safe, warm and wonderful Christmas, everyone.

WAY BACK WHEN...

Snow, song and Christmas

FROM THE FILES OF THE ELK POINT REVIEW AND LAKELAND REVIEW FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 21 IN...

1984

The Christmas bustle hit Elk Point, with the Lioness Club serving pancakes to families waiting to see Santa, the Cubs and Scouts selling fresh-cut trees, and the Elks Lodge hosting a free movie at the Arrow Theatre. Town Council, however, was in Grinch mode, and sent letters to mobile home owners occupying temporary lots, advising them they had one month to relocate. Dome Petroleum's application for a 15-well project and steam plant was conditionally approved by the ERCB.

1989

Snow and cold curbed pre-Christmas activities, with the Christmas Extravaganza suffering from a 10-inch snowfall which kept horses and wagons from attending the event, along with most of the entertainers. If that wasn't enough trouble, the following Monday found the Elk Point area in the cold and dark, with a power outage caused by a line breaking in -38-degree temperatures.

1994

Elk Point and district was in Christmas mode, with light judging scheduled, a great concert presented by the Community Choir, and a family Christmas supper at Heinsburg School. Elk Point Minor Hockey found the Bantam Provincials in their Christmas stocking.

1999

Elk Point United Church was filled to capacity as the Roman Catholic and Ukrainian Catholic churches joined them for a glorious interfaith cantata. Elk Point Community Choir held their tenth annual concert. Town Council's New Year's resolution was to hold the line on taxes, provided there was not a large increase in school tax requisitions.

The Elk Point Review publishes a variety of opinions as a contribution to debate on matters of public concern. Unsigned editorials express the view of this newspaper's editorial board which includes the Publisher and the Editor. Signed pieces express the view of the individual writer.



GUEST COLUMN

The power of peace prevails over all

James E Faust is quoted as saying: "Each Christmas when I was in the military in World War II I wondered when the terrible suffering and agony of war would end and we could all go home. And as we sang, "Peace on earth, goodwill to men," I wondered if the Germans and the Japanese who were Christians were also singing this familiar refrain with the same yearnings in their hearts. Then it all ended 59 years ago after the dropping of two atomic bombs on Japan. Mankind had never before seen such destructive power."

Kenneth J. Brown, who was serving as a U. S. Marine in Japan following the dropping of the bomb told a moving story about a Japanese Christian he met at Christmas time in Nagasaki.



deanna
EASTHOPE
from the FCSS desk

"I watched him turn from the street and climb the path leading to our shelter. He was groping, hesitating. As he came near he folded his umbrella and stood quietly a long moment. His thin coat soon dampened from the cold rain that was falling from the same sky that brought death to nearly half his townspeople three short months before. I concluded that it must take some special courage to confront one's conquerors without invitation. It was little wonder that he hesitated. His polite bow to me was no bow of submission. Rather his squared shoulders and lifted head let me feel as if I were looking up at him even though I towered over him a foot or more. I respectfully asked if I could be of service.

"In his clear English, he introduced himself as Professor Iida... 'I am Christian,' he said. 'I am told this is the head minister's officer.'

"I took him to the inner office of the division chaplain and waited while the two men conversed. Professor Iida stated his request briefly. He was a teacher of music in a Christian girls' college until it was closed by Imperial command. He had been imprisoned because of his professed Christianity.

After being released he had returned to Nagasaki and continued his music instruction in his home even though it was forbidden. He had been able to continue a small chorus and would be pleased if they could sing a concert for the American Marines.

"We know something of your American Christmases," he said. "We should like to do something to make your Christmas in Japan more enjoyable."

"I felt sure the captain would give a negative reply. Our unit was one of hardened fighters, four years away from home, who had fought the enemy from Saipan to Iwo Jima. Yet there was something about the man that bespoke a sincere desire to do a good deed so that permission was granted. The concert would be Christmas Eve. The first thing we noticed was that they were singing in English and we became aware that they didn't understand the words but had memorized them for our benefit. Professor Iida had taught his students well; they sang beautifully. The closing number was a solo, an aria from 'The Messiah'. The girl sang with all the conviction of one who knew that Jesus was indeed the Saviour of mankind and it brought tears. Later that night I helped Professor Iida take down the trimmings. I could not resist asking some questions that propriety forbade but curiosity demanded. I just had to know.

"How did your group manage to survive the bomb?" I asked.

"This is only half my group," he said softly, but seemed unoffended at my recalling his grief so that I felt I could ask more.

"And what of the families of these?"

"They nearly all lost one or more members. Some are orphans."

"What about the soloist? She must have the soul of an angel, the way she sang."

"Her mother, two of her brothers were taken. Yes, she did sing well; I am so proud of her. She is my daughter."

This truly is a story of the power of peace. May you and your family feel this same power this Christmas. Merry Christmas, everyone!

ELK POINT REVIEW

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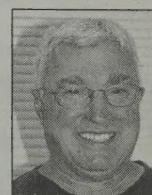
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Vicki Brooker
EDITOR



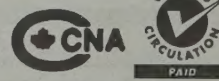
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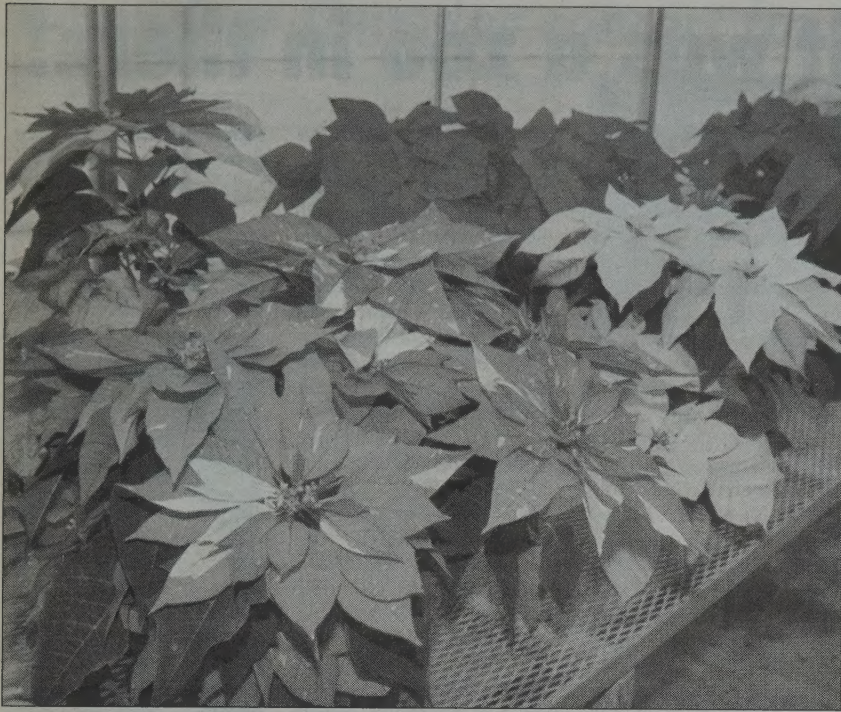
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Gorgeous in any color - Meadowview Greenhouses was wreathed in beauty on Sunday, when they opened to offer their colorful poinsettias.

The Christmas scene

VICKI BROOKER PHOTOS

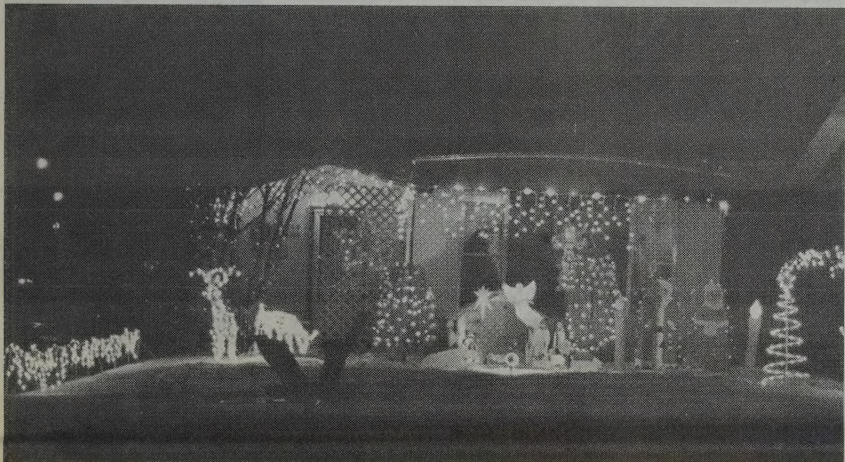
Lost in the Arctic night

Lena and her brother Tagalong ponder their plight when they are lost in the bone-chilling Arctic night in Thursday's Elementary School concert presentation, "Legend of Polar Mountain."



Roadside Attraction

Visitors to Elk Point are sure to notice Jack and Leona Bretzer's award-winning Christmas light display on the corner of 54th Avenue and Highway 41.



Here's to a season filled with tenderness, love, and the best of friends. We appreciate your making this year a memorable one. Merry Christmas!

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9 am - 4 pm
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Wishing You Joy

Here's hoping your holiday season is a blast, from the first day to the last.

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It Must Be Christmas

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Management & Staff of the

Canadian Salt Company Ltd.

Lindbergh Facility 724-3745



It's A Winter Wonderland!

As a layer of white blankets the ground, We'd like to thank you for just coming 'round Seeing you daily has brought us much cheer..

So Merry Christmas to all
And to all a good year!

Elk Point 724-4067
Bonnyville 826-3889



Elementary Concert I: It was a zoo in there!

By VICKI BROOKER
Review Staff

The stockings were hung by the palm tree and the "Welcome to the Zoo" sign with care, as the Monday/Wednesday ECS class

and Grade 1 to 6 A classes hosted Elk Point Elementary School's first of two concerts.

MCs Josh Aarbo and Amber Ference introduced Tia Lowry and Aaron

Graus, who led the singing of O Canada.

Mrs. Holota's ECS students were a smash success with their action song, "Old St. Nicholas had a Tree," complete with bells ringing, stars twinkling and snowflakes fluttering down. A recitation, "Christmas Convoy," told how Santa depended on more modern transportation when his sleigh broke down, and their third number, "Away in a Manger", spoke of the true meaning of Christmas.

School board trustee Darrell Younghans welcomed board chair Terry Laboucane and superintendent of schools Doug Yeo to the concert. Younghans says attending concerts is "the best part of this job. The first time I came, I thought, 'oh, goodie,' but since then I have enjoyed every one. That this is a quality school is evident in the quality of performance, and a quality community deserves a quality school."

"It is a great community and a great school," principal Lorne Young agreed. He noted that the concert performance is the perfect way "to get you in the mood for the Christmas season."

Then it was on with the show, as the animals in the zoo try to discover how to make their special friend smile again.

The audience was welcomed in song by a parade of penguins from Mrs. Tkachuk's Grade 3A, which, surprisingly, also included an elephant. Meanwhile, a pair of key-toting monkeys were busy letting all the zoo's residents (Mrs. Roche's Grade 6As) out of their cages. You'd think that would make them happy, but these animals - even the ever-chuckling hyena - have a big problem.

Their friend the zookeeper was sad. He's been stuck in the zoo, working every holiday, and it's spoiled his mood. What, they asked each other, could they do to cheer him up?

The monkeys (Mrs. Buryn's Grade 1A students) thought a little song-and-dance routine might do the job, but their best showmanship abilities as they hoofed their way through Jingle Bells and the Jangling Song, didn't make him break a smile.

His sadness was catching, and the animals themselves were starting to feel

bad as the seals and birds meet to toss around ideas. Miss Grabas' Grade 4A birds (and one hyena) felt they could make beautiful music together, and so they could - but the zookeeper didn't crack a smile. The giraffes had a different perspective and suggested asking the elephants, but the absent-minded pachyderms weren't a whole lot of help.

A menagerie of smaller animals (Ms Capjack's Grade 5A) came in to sing carols with a difference "for the best keeper in the zoo, good tidings to you, from here in the zoo."

The friendly beasts from Mrs. Jenner's Grade 2A decided perhaps the story of the first Christmas would help the keeper regain his perspective, as they carried in a hay-filled manger and explained the roles of donkeys, cows, sheep and doves.

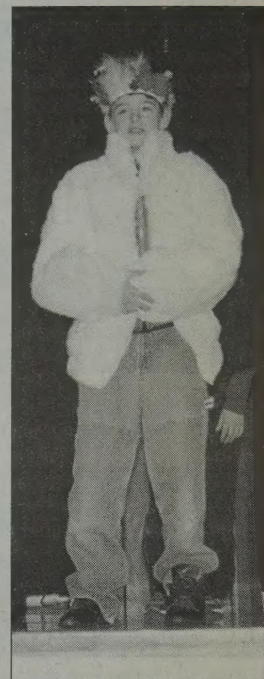
It was a very special gift that finally brought the keeper back to the land of the cheerful. The birds made him a colorful feathered hat, the cats got together and made him a furry coat, the seals contributed shiny boots and the zebra a striped belt. By giving of them-

selves, they made the keeper realize how much his animal friends meant to him.

A much happier zookeeper joined the entire animal kingdom to celebrate a great "Holiday Zoobilee" to wind up the concert.



Welcome in black and white - and grey - Mrs. Tkachuk's penguins (and one elephant) started off the 'Holiday Zoobilee.'



With a little help from his animal friends, the zookeeper has a new look and attitude.

GREETINGS!

Hope your season delivers lots of good news.

Merry Christmas

From your friends at
Newalta Corporation
Elk Point
724-4333

Seasons Greetings

To our friends and customers everywhere, go our very best wishes for a noteworthy holiday season.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

From the Quist Family of
QUIST LIVESTOCK
Elk Point

ALL THE BEST

... To all the best people we're privileged to know — our customers!

Here's hoping your holiday season is filled with glad tidings, happiness and joy from beginning to end.

THANKS!

Management & staff of the
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HOLIDAY HOURS
CLOSED DEC. 24 AT 3 P.M.
CLOSED DEC. 25, 26, 27 AND JAN. 1

More Concert pictures on Pages 10 and 11

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

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Adrian, Shannon & Family

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

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We appreciate your pulling for us this past year.

CJ Petroleum Ltd. Ph. 724-3944 - Elk Point
Gail & Staff

Legendary Thursday concert for Elk Point Elementary students

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

A second packed crowd enjoyed Thursday's concert at Elk Point Elementary School, with Jamison Wozniak and Kelsey Lindquist as master and mistress of ceremonies and Leigha Bishop and Andrea Bader leading O Canada.

The Tuesday and Thursday ECS class, accompanied by Mrs. Holoda, sang "Santa's Song," exhorted Santa to take better care of himself in their recitation, "Ding Dong Santa" and wound up their part of the program by singing "Little Star."

The eagerly-awaited draw for the Grade 5's Loonie Stocking was made by Brandon Rainey, who drew the name of Troy Olmstad.

"The students and staff put in a lot of effort to produce our concerts," Principal Lorne Young said in his welcoming message. "They did a lot of work in a very compressed amount of time, starting about two weeks ago."

School trustee Darrell Younghans was back for a second day, and noted, "it's in all our best interests to keep our schools and the quality of education for our students, the best quality." He urged everyone to "let our inner child show through a little more often."

Bernice Capjack presented Young with \$236 from the school staff's casual day fund, to be sent to STARS air ambulance.

There was a sudden drop in temperature as students of B and C classes from Grades 1 to 6 whisked the audience northward to the land of ice and snow, where Mrs. Conrad's 2B snowmen serenaded with "Once Upon a Wintertime."

Inuit elder Oopik welcomed the virtual travelers to his village at the base of the forbidding Polar Mountain, where his people have lived for generations, and where the sun sets behind the mountain in the autumn and is not seen again until spring.

"We tell stories passed down through the genera-



The legend begins - Oopik tells the story passed down through the ages.

Vicki Brooker photo

tions, during the long winter night," he said, introducing the tribe's leader, the fishermen and hunters and the parka-clad villagers (Mr. Sereda's 6B students).

One such legend tells the story of a little girl named Lena and her brother, Tagalong, who had "a marvelous adventure for such a tiny pair." He assured everyone that the "magical, marvelous tale" he was about to tell "is absolutely true."

The story takes place at the village's annual winter festival, where the residents celebrate the snow.

"Winter has begun, We're having so much fun," chanted Mr. Hyman's rosy-cheeked Grade 3B, as they demonstrated the traditional blanket-toss game, took part in a rowdy snowball fight and ended by tossing snow high in the air.

Somehow in the excitement of the carnival, Tagalong went missing.

"He was my responsibility," wailed a tearful Lena, who is told he has been seen heading out toward the mountain in the frigid Arctic night. After much searching, she located him far from

home, with a fearful storm brewing.

Mr. Bilak's black-clad Grade 5Bs were the voice of the storm, singing of its terrors in a surreal whirl of lights and snowflakes as the lost pair stumble about in the darkness. Mrs. Richard's 4Bs took up the refrain, a sad song, "lost, lost, lost... only a million stars..."

Out of the darkness came a fearsome creature, but this Abominable Snowman said he's "really not scary at all, I'm just freezing. I scare people to try and keep warm."

"Can I just hold your hand?" he begged Lena. "It's so nice and warm." He assured the lost pair that along with his very cold hands, he has "a very warm heart... and huge feet."

The big fellow told his new friends that his name is Squatch, or 'Squatch to his friends, who include the 2B snowmen, who joined him in a song and dance. "They're my extended family."

"Squatch was a bit baffled about how to reunite Lena and Tagalong with their fam-

ily, until he remembered his friend, Aurora the Snow Queen of Polar Mountain. She whirled into view with her following of Mrs. Wozniak's 1B snowflakes, and attempted to cheer up the pair with "You've Gotta Have Hope."

Aurora suggested that Lena and Tagalong lie in the snow and make snow angels as they think about hope and their families. Just then, a beautiful array of Northern Lights or aurora borealis from Miss Ockerman's and Mrs. Beaudette's Grade 4 B and C classes appeared, shimmering against the dark sky and singing of "A Light to Show Your Way."

The lost children were soon back in the village and are welcomed by their ecstatic parents.

"I always remember the joy, peace and hope when the aurora shine in the winter sky," said the philosophical Oopik.

The entire cast returned to the stage for the final song, "Once on a Winter Night."

(More photos - Page 11)

SEASON'S GREETING! May you enjoy a wonderful holiday with family and friends. We're grateful for your support.



Management & Staff of
Dennill's
AGRICENTRE LTD.
Ph. (780) 847-3974, Dewberry
Toll Free 1-888-440-3974

AT THE WINTER SOLSTICE



No matter what holiday you celebrate, may you enjoy a most wonderful season topped off with our best wishes and warm regards.

We really appreciate your continued patronage.

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM TERRY, LEEANN & STAFF

BULK FUEL SALES INC.
WOZNIAK
5310 - 46 Street, Elk Point • Ph. 724-2040



Here Comes Christmas!

The sleigh is loaded with best wishes and gratitude, too

For each and everyone of you,

And now that Christmas is getting near,

We'd like to thank you all for stopping here!

PRAIRIE TECH
OILFIELD SERVICES
* Certified Maintenance *
* Oilfield Construction *
724-4665

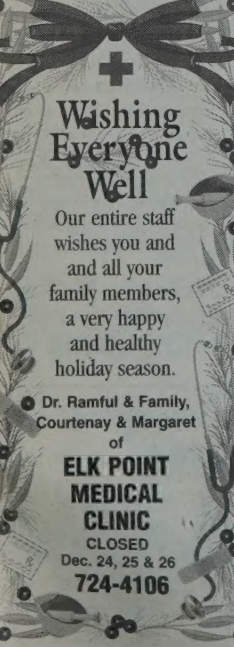


Happy New Year
& Many Thanks

Merry Christmas Everyone!

Nigel, Kandus, Kaden and Staff at ...

K&N LIQUOR STORE
Highway 41, Elk Point
Phone: 724-4770
HOLIDAY HOURS
December 24 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
December 25 - Closed
December 26 Noon - 8 p.m.
NO POINTS - JUST REAL SAVINGS EVERYDAY!



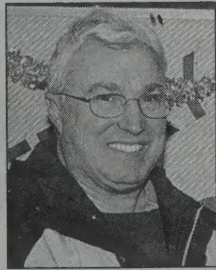
Wishing Everyone Well

Our entire staff wishes you and all your family members, a very happy and healthy holiday season.

Dr. Ramful & Family,
Courtenay & Margaret
of
ELK POINT MEDICAL CLINIC
CLOSED
Dec. 24, 25 & 26
724-4106



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



From Your Local
Sports Hound

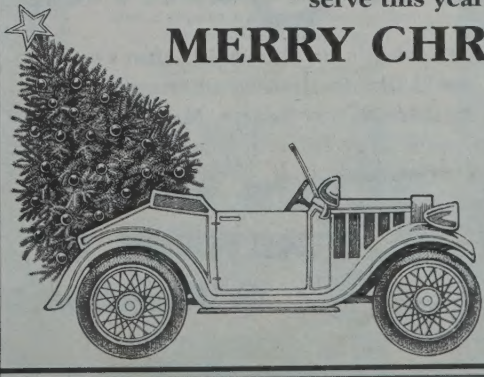
Dear Santa ...
Please bring our NHL Hockey back



Have A Vintage Season!

Here's hoping your holiday season is a truly memorable one. We know we're filled with fond memories as we recall the many kind people we've had the privilege to serve this year.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Vern, Roland & Staff of
Signatures
COLLISION & FRAME
Phone 724-2000
Elk Point, AB.

Santa's reindeer stampede at F. G. Miller brunch

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

A long-awaited draw, festive greetings and a reindeer stampede were all a part of F. G. Miller High School's traditional Christ-mas Brunch on Friday, December 17, as the final school day of 2004 drew to an early end.

Principal Jim Hawkins welcomed guests, staff and students to the event, and thanked the Class of 2005, supervisor Cheri Lindquist and staff and student volunteers for all the effort they had put toward the bountiful meal.

"We're very proud of the students who worked so hard, and all the others who helped to prepare for this event."

Deputy mayor Alvina Schuhmacher brought greetings from the Town of Elk Point, and asked that "no one tell Mr. Tung I was

happy that he sent his regrets and I could come today."

Schuhmacher says she has "lost personal contact with the school" since her children and grandchildren completed their days there, "but every week I read about the wonderful things happening at your school. You have activities that teach you good citizenship... and teachers who care. You students should be proud of your participation and accomplishment."

"You can't all be honor students," she added, "but you all can be honorable citizens."

Deputy superintendent of schools Carmen Brodziak said it was "wonderful to see the familiar faces. You are always so welcoming," as she brought greetings from the central office.

Representatives of The Goat radio station presented

\$200 to the F. G. Miller Students' Union, who did a wonderful job of gathering food for the station's third annual Christmas Convoy.

School trustee Darrell Youngmans appreciated "the great company and the great food," and said when he visits FGM, "I'm greeted more and more by students each time I come. They're comfortable enough to share their feelings with me." He noted that the board and staff are "all here trying our best to pass on our skills," and while "our paths don't always run parallel, hopefully we have a common destination." On behalf of the board, he wished students and staff "the best Christmas ever."

"I very much believe education is progressing in Alberta," MLA Ray Danyluk said. "We just got the statistics, and we're number one in math and science, and none of the subjects were below third place." He congratulated the students on their "exceptional academic records."

Hawkins introduced "the

number one shop teacher in northeast Alberta," Dave Shankowski, who brought along a bag stuffed with ticket stubs for the school's playhouse raffle.

"It began as a small F. G. Miller dream," Shankowski said, "and with students selling tickets and creating spirit in the student body, the news spread and became

contagious, motivating and encouraging the students."

During the framing stage, "dedication drove the project," and Scott Lindquist, (Continued on Page 9)



MLA Ray Danyluk digs deep to determine the winner of the handsome playhouse created by the determined and resourceful students of industrial arts teacher Dave Shankowski (left).

VICKI BROOKER PHOTO

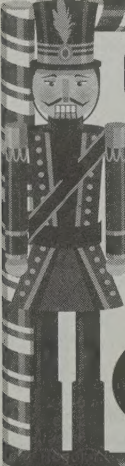


**have
a jolly
holly-
day!**

Wishing you a holiday
Filled with merriment and mirth —
Plus lots of love and laughter,
With joy and peace on earth!

With our thanks for your
valued patronage.

FRED & STAFF OF
**ELK POINT
AMBULANCE SERVICE**
724-4040



**MERRY MERRY
CHRISTMAS!
CHRISTMAS!**

Wishing you a dream of a season where
all your fondest wishes come true.

Your support has helped us to realize all
our dreams. Thanks for your loyal patronage.

Management & Staff
S & T MOBILE WASH LTD.
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**Trimmed With
Best Wishes
And A Special
"Thank You!"**

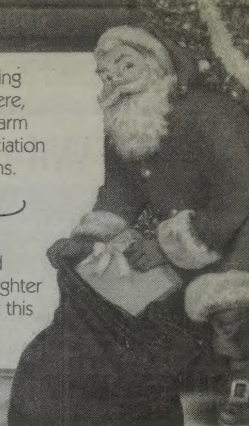
Everything's set for a beautiful season
And we know your friendship is the reason
That we're filled with joy and cheer
At the close of another year
So please accept without delay,
Our best wishes for a great holiday!

**MANAGEMENT
& STAFF AT**

Stedman's V&S

**Elk Point
Ph. 724-4305**

FILLED WITH WARM WISHES

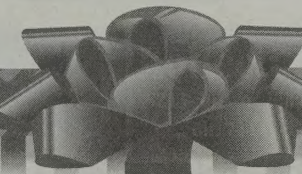


As Santa is busy filling
stockings everywhere,
we're filled with warm
wishes and appreciation
for all of our patrons.

We hope that your
home may be filled
with happiness, laughter
and joy throughout this
holiday season.

Shotz
LIQUOR & BEER STORE
5017 - 50 St., Elk Point
Reg. Hours Mon., Tues., Wed. 10 am - 9 pm
Thurs., Fri. 10 am - 10 pm
Closed Sunday

HOLIDAY HOURS
Open Dec. 21, 22, 23 10 am - 10 pm
Dec. 24 10 am - 6 pm
Closed Dec. 25 & 26/04 and
Jan. 1 & 2/05
Resume Regular Hours Jan. 3



Open Up To Christmas!

Because it's what's on the inside that counts,
we'd like to thank you from the
bottom of our hearts. May all your
dreams come true for you this holiday season.



**Cal's HOME
HARDWARE &
RadioShack.**

4831 - 50 St.,
Main Street, Elk Point
Phone 724-3763 Fax 724-3376

**A Merry Christmas
Is On The Menu!**

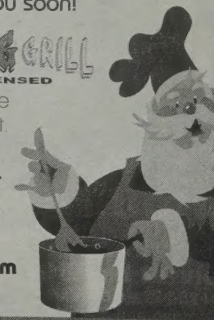
We're serving up best wishes in short order
for all our loyal patrons. It's always a
pleasure to serve you and we look forward
to seeing you soon!

Roadside PIZZA & GRILL
LICENSED

Conveniently located on the
corner of Hwy. 41 in Elk Point.
4810 - 50 Ave • 724-3550

**DINE WITH US FOR THAT
GREAT TASTE OF
HOME COOKING**

**Closed Dec. 24 at 5:30 pm
Closed Dec. 25**

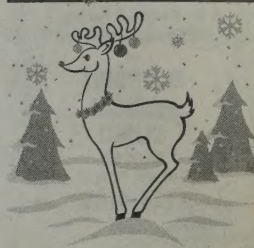


*He Knows You've
Been Good!*

Santa and his reindeer are
gearing up to bring you and
yours lots of goodies this year.

I want to wish you a
wonderful holiday and to
thank you for being so good
to me this past year!

Melanie McRae
Elk Point Avon Rep
724-3892





Survivors of the reindeer stampede, including poor old Grandma (Daniel Shankowski) with the hoofprinted forehead, take a bow after their sidesplitting performance.

Santa's reindeer stampede

(Continued from Page 8)

Travis Lindquist and Curtis Proskiw had the structure up and looking good in time for the Canada Day parade while they "learned skills far beyond the realm of education."

When school resumed this fall, a group of Grade 10 students took over "and did an incredible job of finishing," Shankowski said, including learning the necessary skills to wire and insulate the building.

The school staff provided encouragement and helped with ticket sales, the town and surrounding areas supported the project with donations and by purchasing tickets.

MLA Danyluk drew the winning ticket, assuring Shankowski, "if I do win, I will take it home." However, it was Joni Brodziak of St. Paul who was the lucky winner.

Following grace by Rev. Joep Langejans, guests and students lined up to fill their plates with turkey and all the trimmings, prepared by the grad class and their assistants.

Following the meal, everyone was treated to entertainment.

Things got slightly out of hand to the accompaniment of Randall Kry's song, "Grandma Got Run Over By a Reindeer," as Santa's horned herd got away on him and trampled a poor old dear tottering home for her medication. The revived senior, her relieved family, Santa and even one of the frisky perpetrators received a big hand for their rollicking presentation.

The Food Bank draw was one by Rev. Jim MacLellan, who took home a teddy bear.

"Three Darlings" were replaced on the program by "Five Christmas Fools", who delivered a unique kind of Merry Christmas greeting.

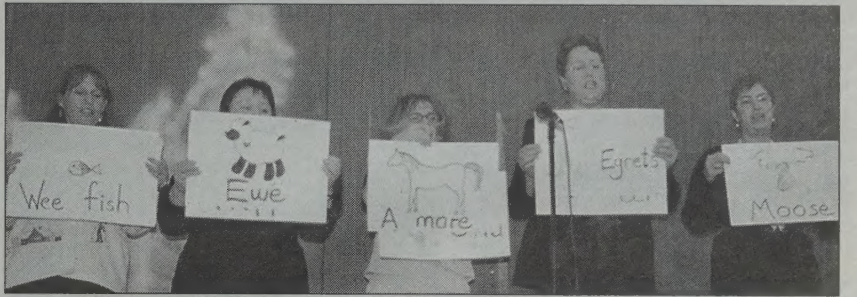
Music finished up the afternoon, leading off with an instrumental duet by Chevy Botting and Eric Mosely, and crowd-pleasing vocal solos by Corbin Poitras and Emily Mosely.



Friends of the Food Bank

F. G. Miller Students' Union executives Shyla Bullock and Valerie Friesen were presented with a \$200 cheque by Lesley Young of The Goat radio station for the school's help in gathering Food Bank donations.

VICKI BROOKER PHOTOS



"Wee fish ewe a mare egrets moose???" Staff hooked on phonics present their unique Christmas message to the brunch crowd.

Time has nearly run out for 2004. We wish you and your loved ones a very festive season and all the best for 2005.

Merry Christmas

Kevin, Michelle,
Family & Staff

Kids OILFIELD SERVICES LTD.

Elk Point
Ph. 724-4468
Cell 645-8549

To our special friends at the holidays

May you and yours enjoy an old-fashioned Christmas filled with good friends, good times and lots of good fortune. We thank you for your goodwill and support this past year.

We're always glad to be of service and are happy to call this fine community our home.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES (FCSS)

*Deanna Easthope *Doreen Watson *Gene Russell
*Thomas Kondla *Faye Smith *Annie Price
*Parrish Tung *Ann Farrell

HO HO HO!

HOpe It's jolly!

Wishing you glad tidings at this joyous time of year.

ALL THE BEST FOR 2005!

* * *

From the Sharkey family of
SHARKEY'S SERVICE LTD.
Heinsburg, AB

JOY

SPREAD IT AROUND!

With thanks to all our friends who have brought us so much joy this year.

Have a great holiday and we look forward to seeing you in the new year!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Drop in, the coffee's always on!

DARREN, DAVID AND STAFF OF QUICK-E-MART
BOONE'S COLD BEER & LIQUOR
Ph. 943-3097 - Heinsburg

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

From the staff and management of ...

R&M ENERGY SYSTEMS CANADA

Elk Point 724-4223
A Unit of Robbins & Myers Canada, Ltd.

Warm Wishes at Christmas

Christmas is such a wonderful time because it brings family and friends together in celebration.

We hope all your family and friends are able to gather together to share this very special time of year.

Thank you for your business and Happy Holidays from our home to yours.

Harold, Shirley and Stacey
Ph. 724-3090
Cell: 645-7297
4816 - 50 Street,
Elk Point, AB

JOY HOPE LOVE PEACE HEALTH HARMONY

Who says you can't have it all?

Merry Christmas and many thanks for your friendship.

BEST WISHES FOR 2005
from the Residents & Staff of
HERITAGE LODGE
Elk Point

Who's who at the zoo: more from EPE's Wednesday concert



Old St. Nicholas Had a Tree...

...And Mrs. Holota's Monday/Wednesday ECS class had a great time showing the audience all the trimmings that grace its branches.



Fine Feathered Friends

Birds of many feathers from Miss Grabas' Grade 4A and one stray hyena flocked together to make beautiful music, give or take a giggle or two.



The big cats and zebras, monkeys and hyenas - everyone but the giraffes - are out of their cages, but they can't have fun while their keeper is out of sorts.



Just monkeying around, this gleeful group of primates goes a bit bananas as they sing and dance to cheer up their zookeeper friend.



The zookeeper is anything but merry, and the elephants brainstorm with the penguins and giraffes over ways to turn the situation around.

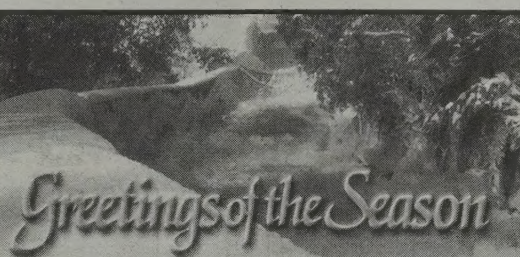
There's nothing like Christmas in the Country



May you experience the season and all the joy, warmth and happiness it holds in store. Our warmest thoughts are with you on this holiday season.

COUNTY OF ST. PAUL No. 19 COUNCIL & STAFF

County office will be closed
December 27 - 28 and January 3 / 05



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED LOYAL SUPPORT.

*I would like to personally extend my best to you
and your family for a joyful holiday season.*

PLEASE JOIN ME AND MY OFFICE STAFF
FOR A CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE:

Thursday, December 23, 2004
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Constituency Office
4434 - 50 Avenue, St. Paul, AB

Everyone is Welcome!

Ray Danyluk, MLA
Lac La Biche-St. Paul
Constituency Office
4434-50 Ave., St. Paul, AB T0A 3A2
Phone: 780-645-6999
or Toll Free 1-866-674-6999
Fax: 780-645-5787
laclabiche.stpaul@assembly.ab.ca



VICKI BROOKER
PHOTOS



...And A
Partridge
In A Pear Tree!

Wishing you twelve
miraculous days.
We really value the gift
of your patronage.

Season's Greetings
Sam, Monica, Family & Staff
**Taste Buds
Restaurant**
724-4822



Traditional winter fun in the far north includes the blanket toss.



Aurora the Snow Queen dances for her little snowflake friends.



The friendly neighborhood Sasquatch proves that he's not so abominable after all... just really, really cold.

Thursday's legends of the north



Grade 4 students portrayed the brilliant colors of the Northern Lights.



Safe and sound - the tribe leader, their family, and Oopik welcome the weary wanderers home after their ordeal on Polar Mountain.

VICKI BROOKER PHOTOS



GLAD TIDINGS TO YOU!



Wishing you all things bright and beautiful this holiday season. We appreciate your patronage and look forward to seeing you soon.

Merry Christmas from the staff of

SERVUS
CREDIT UNION

Elk Point

A MOST WELCOME SEASON



There's no place like home for the holidays, especially when there're people like you for neighbors!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND MANY THANKS.

Management & Staff

FORT GEORGE MOTEL

724-3505 - Elk Point

At This Season Of Wishes



MERRY CHRISTMAS
JOYEUX NOEL
MIYO MANITOU KISIKAW

*Христового Різдва та
Щасливого Нового Року*

From the Board of Trustees and Staff

**St. Paul Education
Regional Division #1**

www.stpauleducation.ab.ca

PUT ON YOUR PARTY HAT

Slinger's Pub & GRILL
FORMERLY THE ELK POINT HOTEL

New Year's Eve

**Steak & Lobster
Supper & Dance**

FORMAL ATTIRE

MUSIC BY... **ROUTE 66**

Their Farewell Performance

\$100.00 Per Couple

\$3.00 Per Drink

Door Prizes All Night

Plus at 1:00 a.m. a draw for a

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ALL INCLUSIVE

ADVANCE TICKETS

Call Willie at 724-4569 or 645-0057

Cocktails: 5:30 p.m. **Supper:** 6:30 p.m.

Dance: 9:00 p.m.

MIDNIGHT LUNCH

Merry Christmas!

WE WILL BE CLOSED - Dec. 24 at 4:00 p.m.

CLOSED - Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

Christmas concert concludes a fun year for Community Choir

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

Elk Point Community Choir director Udo Mueller summed up the year of 2004 with one simple statement: "This has been fun!"

In a year with "a fair share of headshakers and oddities," such as reality television shows, E-bay auction of a half-eaten grilled cheese sandwich and no NHL, Mueller says "fortunately, there are things to remember and celebrate.

"We're here tonight in recognition of Christmas."

Mueller's comments came at the end of the first of two concerts last week in Elk Point.

The festively attired choir all joined in the first set of numbers. "Waiting" set the tone of expectation for an evening of enjoyment, while "Tidings," described in the program as "a Christmas Carol fantasy," featured a medley of favorites. The spirit of giving was alive and well in the choir's musical wish for "A Gift for Every Child."

Familiar and not-so-familiar carols combined in a lively arrangement entitled "Christmas Comes Again... in About Three Minutes."

Solos by Ruth Pugh and Monica Carrier were featured in "Do You Hear What I Hear?", while Erin Mueller on conga and Aaron Petersen with the shakers added a Calypso beat to "Sing Noel!"

The men of the choir were at their best in their performance of "Peace on Earth with It Came Upon a Midnight Clear."

An octet, short by one member, Shaun Sheplaw, on Thursday night, com-

bined a dazzling array of vocal sounds in "Voice Dance," starring Aaron Petersen, Udo Mueller, Gary Townsend, Erin Mueller, Kelsie Petersen, Kerry Anderson and Sarah Osinchuk.

Erica Spoeth on cello and Linda Peters on piano wound up the first half of the concert with "Still, Still, Still."

'Harmony,' a quartet made up of Shirley Osinchuk, Cheryl Kurasah, Sarah Osinchuk and Kerry Anderson, with Anderson's piano artistry, told of "Angels Watchin' Over Me."

Erin Mueller was accompanied by dad Udo on piano in her powerful gospel rock number, "I Go to the Rock."

The ladies of the choir took to the stage and led the audience in a sing-along of "Frosty the Snowman," "Joy to the World" and "Jingle Bells" before blending their voices in "Calypso Allelu" with Kerry Anderson on piano, Erin Mueller on conga and Cathy Closs with the shakers.

The men joined the ladies for the final set, starting off with a traditional German carol, "Lo How A Rose E'er Blooming," fea-

ture Karen Langejans on flute. "O Come to the Manger" incorporated the familiar words of "O Little Town of Bethlehem", while "Rock-a My Savior" featured Udo Mueller at his rock-and-roll best on piano and a doo-wop touch.

Erin Mueller took over the piano keys and Aaron Petersen the conga for the upbeat "Somebody Built a Manger"

"Peace on Earth with Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" gave a new sound to a traditional favorite, with a solo by Sarah Osinchuk, Barb Bury on piano and

Erin Mueller.

Udo Mueller led the choir in a round of applause thanking the audience for their support, after extending the choir's thanks to sound man Rob Walker, "consistent and dependable" pianist Deanna Easthope, page turner Shelby Mueller and the numerous choir volunteers.

The choir closed their books Easthope's hands rested unmoving on the keyboard for their a capella benediction, "Create in Me," as a glorious evening of music came to a close.



Erin Mueller pounds out the Calypso beat for "Calypso Allelu."



Elk Point Community Choir, a diverse group of singers ranging from teens to seniors from across the region, sings out a "Christmas Carol Fantasy" under the direction of St. Paul's Udo Mueller, with Deanna Easthope at the piano and Shelby Mueller as page turner.

VICKI BROOKER PHOTOS

A Very Merry Christmas

WISHING YOU A DELIGHTFUL HOLIDAY

Here's hoping your holiday season is illuminated by faith, love, joy and friendship. We're so thankful for your patronage and we look forward to your next visit.

HILLTOP MOTOR INN

724-4001

Glad Tidings To You Wherever You Are...

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

From Management & Staff at

Lloydminster Heavy Crude

Elk Point & Lloydminster

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU

Management & Staff of

MIDFIELD SUPPLY LTD.

Elk Point - 724-0008

Thank You For Your Business

In a time when everything changes so quickly, it's good to know we can count on the goodwill of our neighbors and friends. For your continued patronage we are undeniably grateful, and wish you and your family the best holiday season, ever!

Jo-Ar's SEPTIC TANK SERVICE

Holding Tanks * Septic Tanks * Car Wash Sumps * Portable Toilet Rentals

Heinsburg, AB
943-2465

Christmas... It's Uplifting!

Here's hoping everything runs smoothly or you this holiday season. We appreciate your choosing us and thank you for your continued business.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! SCOTT & STAFF

BUMPER TO BUMPER™
AUTO PARTS PROFESSIONALS

WILTER AUTO & INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY

5405-48 St., Elk Point, Ph. 724-4090

Next Stop: Christmas!

Although everyone here is going full-steam to get ready for the best holiday season, ever, we'd like to stop and express our gratitude to each and every one of you.

HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!! From Barry, Rhonda & Staff of

HOLIDAY HOURS
Dec. 24 & 31
8 am - 4 pm
Closed Dec. 25, 26 & Jan 1 & 2

TRUCK-IN 2000
Wash & Lube
724-4440

Jingle All The Way!

Wherever you're dashing off to this holiday season, we hope joy and laughter follow all the way. Thanks for including us in your travels this past year.

Merry Christmas!

Management, Family & Staff of
LAKELAND TIREFCRAFT LTD.

Ph. 724-3610 - Elk Point



Karen Langejans adds a lilting flute solo to a traditional German carol.

Songs of peace and joy ring out at Community Choir concert



Songs of a Calypso Christmas

The ladies of the choir rock to the beat of a "Calypso Allelu."

Songs of Angels

The Harmony group members Cheryl Kurash, Shirley Osinchuk, Sarah Osinchuk and (not shown) Kerry Anderson told of "Angels Watchin' Over Me."



Songs of Peace

The men of the choir were at their best in "Peace on Earth... with It Came Upon a Midnight Clear."

Keep The Faith!

This holiday season, we'd like to join you and your family in a prayer for peace among nations and goodwill towards all men and women, everywhere.

Merry Christmas and many thanks for your valued business.

Gordon, Sharon and Staff of
Kuhn's Collectibles
5213-50 Ave., Elk Point,
Ph. 724-4434



A ROUND
OF CHEER
& HOLIDAY
SPIRITS!

With a song in our hearts, we wish
you all a very, merry
Christmas and a happy New Year.

**FACULTY & STUDENTS
OF ELK POINT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

Exclusively For You At Christmas

Before we close on another year we'd like to list our best wishes here along with appreciation and gratitude, too for each and every one of you

May your home be blessed with love and laughter throughout the holiday season and after!

Lakeland
Real Estate Services
5014 - 50th Avenue, Elk Point
Ph. 780-724-3781; Fax 780-724-4488
mls.ca



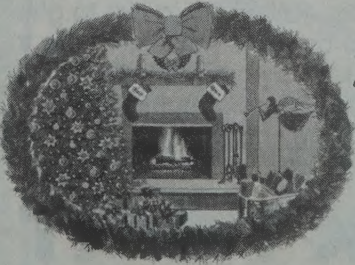
Thanks, Partner!

North, south, east or west,
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We really appreciate your stopping here!



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HOLIDAY HOURS

Dec. 24 5 am - 6 pm Dec. 26 6 am - 8 pm
Closed Dec. 25 & Jan 1 Dec. 31 5 am - 10 pm

Born to die!

By PASTOR JIM MACLELLAN
Elk Point Baptist Church

There's something marvelous in life,
that I should tell you of;
A Savior came, was Born To Die
because of His great love.
He knew before He walked the path,
just what would lie ahead.
He knew that He was "Born To Die"
that You might live instead.
He never had a second thought
for what He was to do.
He gave His life so willingly,
He suffered just for You.

- By Joni Kassel

"Yes, by God's grace, Jesus tasted death for everyone in the entire world," says the Scripture [Hebrews 2:9 (NLT)]. The Second Person of the Triune God, the Word, was poured into humanity. We celebrate this event at Christmas. He lived a perfect life. He died. He rose again. In heaven today sits the One who became a man. That Man is Jesus. He is the only perfect and righteous man. Dear friends this passage teaches us that Jesus Christ's death was for everyone in that by dying His sacrifice was more than more than enough for all the sins of all people. (cf. 1 John 2:2; 2Peter 2:1; John 3:16). His death was sufficient [ample, plenty, adequate] for all, but it is efficient only for those who put their faith in Christ. You cannot bypass this. Only by faith in the death and righteousness of Christ can you be saved and inherit the eternal life. To neglect Christ is to neglect the greatest gift of all: forgiveness, freedom from guilt, victory over death and life ever after. On behalf of Pastor Jason Goulet and the congregation of Elk Point Baptist Church, I wish you a Christmas season of joy, peace and happiness in the knowledge of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.



Baptists enjoy Christmas concert, carnival

VICKI BROOKER PHOTOS

Tiny sheep and shepherds follow Sunday School teacher Linda Peters lead in a rousing song entitled "Knock, Knock," (above), the young Joseph and Mary prepare to flee to Egypt with the Baby Jesus to escape King Herod and his slaughter of male children (right); old-fashioned and new-fashioned sleigh rides (below) were part of the afternoon of fun before rain sent everyone scurrying back indoors.



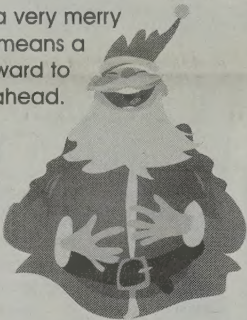
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Catch the Spirit!



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wish you all a very joyous holiday season
and a prosperous New Year.*

ELK POINT ELK POINT
B.P.O. O.O.R.P.
ELKS LODGE LODGE #460



Ho...Ho... Hold The Press- It's Christmas!

Before we wrap up another holiday edition, we'd like to give you our greetings right here in black and white, along with our gratitude for your loyal readership.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
**ELK POINT
REVIEW**

Vicki Brooker, Melanie McRae, Doug Bassett



Greetings, Friends!

We'd like to add your name to the listings of good people we'd like to thank this holiday season and hope that happiness and good fortune will visit your home in the year ahead. We're always glad to be of service and are happy to call this fine community our home.

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A tiny shepherd, a small but regal wise man and a little angel came to call at the manger as the children presented their Nativity play.

Six churches combine in Interfaith Cantata

By Vicki Brooker
Review Staff

"God must be smiling tonight," Paul Chamberland said as he welcomed a large crowd to Sunday night's Interfaith Cantata at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church.

Choirs and children from Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Church, St. John Ukrainian Catholic Church, Elk Point Christian Community Church, Elk Point Baptist Church and Elk Point United Church joined those from the host church for the evening of celebration in song.

Rev. Jope Langejans of Elk Point United Church said the choir was still "relatively small" and challenged each member to bring more singers to next year's cantata. "Make that one of your projects during the Centennial year of 2005."

Rev. Langejans offered the opening prayer, as "households of earth pre-

pare to receive the Child of Heaven."

The congregation joined the choir in "O Come All Ye Faithful" before the youngsters of the congregation advanced in solemn procession as the story of the birth of Jesus was read. Mary and Joseph knelt beside a newborn infant, with a tiny angel, an even tinier shepherd and a small, regal wise man came to pay homage to the King of Kings.

The choir joined in songs from many lands, including "Before the Marvel of This Night," "Sing 'Till Sundown", featuring Karen Langejans on flute, "The Hushing Carol," "Holly and the Iv," and "Lovely is the Dark Blue Sky." "The Friendly Beasts" featured the added attraction of stuffed donkey, cow, sheep, doves and camel, while "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy" featured the rhythm of tambourine and maracas.

Emily Gillespie read the

first portion of the Christmas story from the Gospel of St. Luke, 2:1-7, with Lillian Demchuk completing the story, with verses 8 to 20.

The Ukrainian Choir Group sang a special number, "There Is Joy in Bethlehem" while Rev. Langejans added a solo, "The Manger and the Cross."

The congregation joined in a number of familiar favorites throughout the program.

Father Zbige thanked the singers for providing "a very nice Christmas atmosphere" as he pronounced the benediction.

"Silent Night" was sung in a number of languages, including German, Ukrainian, French, Polish and Cree, before the audience joined in the final English verses as the choir paraded slowly out of the church, still singing their songs of festive praise.



Here we come a-carrying - singers from six area churches raised their voices in song at the Interfaith Cantata.



Home Is Where The Heart Is!

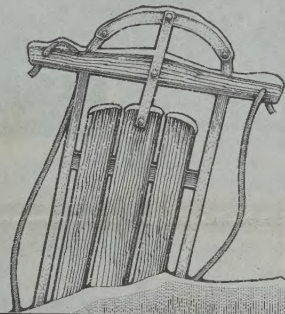
Home. It's a place to unwind. A place to dream.
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For the hospitality and goodwill you've shown us this year, we are deeply grateful. We will always be proud to call this town "home" and wish all of our neighbors, a very merry holiday season.

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You

The Ferguson Flats Association would like to express its appreciation to everyone who supported us in the restoration of the Fern Chapel School. Special thanks to the financial donors, volunteers and to all who donated items to this historic building.

This site is closed during the winter months but will re-open for tours in the spring.

Season's Greeting to All



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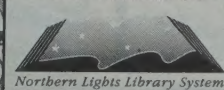
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Georges, Jackie, Family & Staff

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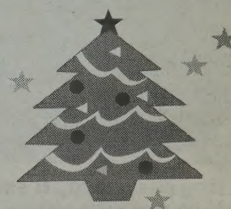
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O Silent Night, O Holy Night

By Rev. JOPE LANGEJANS
Elk Point United Church

"And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger: because there was no room for them in the inn." (Luke 2:7 KJV)

Christmas Eve, over 2000 years ago, must have been very peculiar indeed! A young woman, heavy with child, is invited to bunk overnight in a stable - a stable filled with, no doubt, the animals which patrons of the inn brought with them. The sights, sounds, and smells would be very normal to many of us who farm and ranch in this area, but to send a young pregnant woman to sleep with the critters seems a little on the unique side, but, as it was in those days, probably not out of the ordinary. At least this is how the Luke rendition portrays the birth story. Was it like this or not? Does it really matter if it was or wasn't? Likely not, but there are some very important underlying statements which are made in Jesus' birth story which speak to all of our lives. Following are a few of them which I have gleaned out of the narrative.

1. In the silence of the night there is a holiness, as there

is holiness in the chaos of a stable.

2. One need not be of wealth or stature to change the troubled world.

3. Whatever life offers, seize it, embrace it, and move forward.

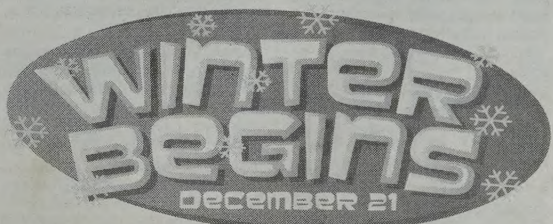
4. And what may be of most importance, God continually comes to us through instances of hope. This is what this child being born again in our lives means to us - a newness of hope which may change the world; a newness which occurs over and over again. The Christ-child signifies God coming to all of us in our own skin, in our own time and place. This is what the Good News of Christmas is all about. May we all embrace this and move forward working towards a world of peace and of a friendly and loving coexistence.

I offer my special prayers to each and everyone of you this season that the Christ-child will be born into your lives and into your homes. Silent Night, Holy Night is for you and may you herald a new dawning of peace and justice. Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night, a Holy night... Shalom.



Longtime resident turns 99

Longtime Elk Point resident Neva Beattie, who now resides in Bonnyville, came back to Elk Point to celebrate here 99th birthday at a coffee party on Sunday with a number of friends and former neighbors, who ventured out to see her despite an unseasonable rainstorm, snow and high winds.



Lifetime membership presented to loyal Friends of the Library volunteer

By DAPHNE SCHNURER
Librarian

Lifetime library membership has been awarded to Gabe Bayduza from the Elk Point Public Library in recognition of her valuable contributions to the Friends

of the Elk Point Library. Gabe has been the Friends treasurer for the past 10 years. With out dedicated volunteers such as Gabe, our library would not be the valuable community service it is today.



A decade of dedication

Gabe Bayduza (left), who has spent the last 10 years as treasurer of Elk Point Friends of the Library, is presented with a lifetime library membership by Sherry Milholland of the Elk Point Public Library Board.

Christmas is here!

Don't forget to stock up on reading materials today or tomorrow for the Christmas -to-New-Year's holiday week. The library will be closed on Thursday, December 23 and Friday, December 24 and will remain closed until January 3, when normal hours will resume.

Check your library card

Many library memberships expire on January 1 -

PRAYER OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN (never known to fail)

Oh, most beautiful flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in my necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me here you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary I place this prayer in your hands (three times). Say this prayer three consecutive days and then you must publish and it will be granted to you. D.W.

check your card, and make a New Year's resolution to read and watch more material from your local library in 2005!

First of the year!

We're starting the new year right with the first Seniors' Tea coming up on Tuesday, January 4. Join us for tea, coffee, goodies and good conversation.

In Memoriam

ELIUK, Vera

In loving memory of our Mother, Grandmother & Great Grandmother Vera Eliuk who went to a better place on Dec. 27, 1994.

As we look upon your picture, sweet memories we recall of a face so full of sunshine and a smile for one and all. Though your smile is gone forever and your hand we cannot touch, We will never lose sweet memories of the Mother we loved so much.

Forever loved and forever missed, Jim, Amelia & Families

In Memoriam

ANDRISHAK, Joanne

In loving memory of a dear wife and mother, Joanne, who passed away December 22, 1991.

*Unseen, unheard, you are always near
So loved, so missed, so very dear
Today, tomorrow, our whole lives through
We will always love & remember you.*

Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by husband Peter and daughter Patricia.

In Memoriam

CAPJACK, Olga



In loving memory of a dear mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and friend, Olga Capjack.

*We did not know that morning
What sorrow the day would bring,
The bitter grief and shock severe,
To part with one we loved so dear.
Although your smile is gone forever
And your hand we cannot touch,
We will never lose the memory
Of the one we loved so much.*

Forever loved and deeply missed by Capjack Family.

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Lookin' Fine at 29!

Happy Birthday Kevin Malo

December 24

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CLASS #1 tank truck drivers with off road experience. Catered camp job. Two weeks on and one week off. Full-time. Fax resume with references: 780-523-5833.

6 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FULL-TIME OFFICE employment opportunity. Apprentice heavy duty mechanic. We offer: Permanent full-time position, overtime after 8 hours per day, above average earnings, full benefits, shared company accommodations, year round inside work, modern Kenworth/Cat fleet, signed job offers. Experience an asset. Fox Creek website: www.town.fox-creek.ab.ca. Apply to: McClelland Oil Services Inc., Box 1108, Fox Creek, AB, T0H 1P0. Fax 780-622-3027. Contact: Chrissie 780-622-3800. Website: //www.mcclellandoilservices.com.

DISTRIBUTORS WANTED. Healthy Gourmet Coffee. Brazilian, Arabic is now here. Contains Reishi Mushrooms, tastes delicious. New to North America. Unlimited earning potential. Free sample 780-842-4903.

MECHANICALLY INCLINED PERSONNEL with tractor/trailer experience. Journeyman not necessarily required. Wages dependent on experience. Temporary accommodation. Benefits package available. Fax resume with references: 780-523-5833.

ACCOUNTING FIRM in Central Alberta requires C.A.'s, CMA's and CGA's interested in a career in public practice. Fax resume to Cookson Kooymman C.A.'s, Lacombe, 403-782-3070.

DORAN STEWART Oilfield Services requires the following personnel for their winter camp projects: Warehouse personnel, ticketed pipelitters, non-ticketed pipelitters, operators for excavators, pipelayers, and dozers, labourers. Please fax resume to 403-845-2365.

GOLDSTAR TRANSPORTATION is currently recruiting drivers and lease operators. We offer full-time, year-round employment. Competitive wages. No Class One yet? Ask about our training program and start a new career! Fax current drivers abstract and resume to: Dave Elliot 250-374-0250 or apply online: www.arrowtransportation.com.

THIS SOUTHERN ALBERTA drilling company is presently seeking experience personnel for our Brooks drilling fleet. We are recruiting experienced personnel for drilling, derrick, and motors positions for doubles, singles and ADR rigs. Working two (2) weeks on, one (1) week off. We are offering competitive wages, an excellent benefit package, and safety incentive program. All qualified applicants must have previous drilling rig experience and be required to pass a pre-employment drug screen and medical prior to employment. Please forward all resumes listing experience and certificates to: Human Resources, Box 1090, Brooks, AB, T1R 1B9 or fax 1-403-362-6165.

IPS MANUFACTURING Limited provides quality equipment to the oil and gas producers throughout Western Canada. Our continued growth has created a number of job openings for apprentice, structural "B" pressure welders as well as pipe fitting crews. Competitive wages, good benefits and steady work environment make this an attractive opportunity. Fax resume to 403-884-2106. No phone calls please.

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WORK FROM HOME on your computer. Full or part-time. No experience required. Start today. Visit our website now: www.MyHomePCJob.com. Code A1.

6 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

FULL-TIME QUALIFIED picker operator. Also experience welder and heavy duty mechanic. Positions open. Competitive wages, full benefits. Fax resume 780-842-3899.

TRUSS DESIGNER, CDN Frameworks, sunny Okanagan, Enderby, BC. New shop CNC SAW (Hundegger). Housing and moving allowance; salary negotiable. Start Feb./05. Email: cdn@sunwave.net. Phone 250-832-1503.

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CLASS 3 TANK truck driver required to haul fluid in the Provost, Alberta and Macklin, Saskatchewan areas. All oilfield applicable tickets required. Fax resume 780-753-4845.

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PTI PREMIUM CAMP SERVICES, a subsidiary of PTI Group Inc., who provides remote site camp and catering services is currently seeking: Drivers, Chefs, Cooks, Bakers. Please submit resume to: 3050 Parsons Road, Edmonton, T6N 1B1. Fax 780-461-3114; recruiting@ptigroup.com or RR 3, Site 1, Box 50, Grande Prairie, T8V 5N3. Fax 780-539-3434; dzember@ptigroup.com by December 31, 2004.

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY heavy duty mechanic for Terroco Industries in Edson, Alberta. Please fax resume to: 780-723-2686. Attention: Lorne or email: terroco@telusplanet.net.

WANTED EXPERIENCED operator for Slickline Truck, based out of Kindersley, SK. At least 1 year experience preferred. Fax resume to 306-463-6304 or call Jim 306-463-6533. Cell 306-463-8383.

TOWN OF Turner Valley - Chief Administrative Officer. Are you a team player with exceptional leadership and communication abilities, a strategic thinker with outstanding problem-solving skills ready to take responsibility for the successful administration and operation of a growing community in the foothills? Please contact the Town Office, phone 403-933-4944, fax 403-933-5377. Email: barbs@turnervalley.ca to obtain full advertisement and job description details. Deadline Noon, January 14, 2005.

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In-Field Oil Hauling
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Must be 25 years of age or over. Safety tickets required.
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FOR RENT - 2 bedroom fourplex for rent in Elk Point. Four appliances, no pets. Phone 724-2288. xxx

FOR RENT - Mobile home on acreage, 1 mile north, 1 mile west of Elk Point. \$600 / month plus utilities. Phone 780-826-1715 evenings. xxx

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This is an excellent training position in all aspects of accounting. Candidate will be responsible for supervising 3 accounting staff, preparing computerized financial statements and reconciling general ledger accounts.

The candidate should possess a post secondary accounting diploma / degree from a recognized institution. Enrollment in the CGA or CMA program is an asset.

The St. Paul Co-op is part of the Co-operative Retailing System consisting of over 300 retail stores across Western Canada which provides for excellent advancement opportunities.

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 Wishing you a festive season filled with good friends, good times and good tidings.
 We're grateful for the good will you've shown us this past year.

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With gratitude, we extend our best wishes for a happy & healthy holiday season to each and every one of you!

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 The chill is in the air but we're filled with warmth when we think of all the great people we've had the pleasure to meet this year.
 Merry Christmas, everyone!